In the Specification:

On page 1, prior to line 2, please insert the following heading and paragraph:

--Cross Reference to Related Applications

This application is for entry into the U.S. national phase under §371 for International Application No. PCT/FI2004/050104 having an international filing date of June 24, 2004, and from which priority is claimed under all applicable sections of Title 35 of the United States Code including, but not limited to, Sections 120, 363 and 365(c), and which in turn claims priority to Finnish patent application 20035109 filed on June 27, 2003.

Technical Field--

On page 1, please insert the following heading prior to line 5:

--Background of the Invention--

On page 1, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 5 as follows:

--Portable devices have many different functions. For instance a typical mobile phone device can, in addition to ordinary telephone functions, be used for SMS, short message services, or for more versatile MMS, multimedia messaging services. By means of the WAP, wireless application protocol, the devices can be used for establishing a wireless connection to the Internet, email or external databases. Moreover, the device may include a stationary, integrated radio set or a terminal, in which a separate radio set can be connected. In addition, more and more attention is nowadays paid to the sound production and sound quality of the devices, and several devices are provided with auxiliary facilities in order to make the produced sound environment better and more versatile. Most advanced devices have integrated digital cameras whereby an image or video image can be recorded in a digital form. The images can be viewed by the device itself, and they can be transmitted to other devices along routes known as such.--

On page 2, please insert the following heading prior to line 23:

--Summary of the Invention--

On page 2, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 34 as follows:

-- In a method according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention, a function of a portable device is temporarily blocked so that in the device, there is received a blocking key that blocks a certain function, and that the received blocking key is activated in the device in order to prevent said function. The device sending the blocking key can be for instance a computer located at the reception of a company; said computer is used for transmitting a blocking key to the devices of persons visiting the company, and the blocking key can for example prevent camera functions in the device. The blocking key can be transmitted via a wireless, short-range connection in message form, for instance as a short message, or via a cable to be connected to the devices. Thus a device function can be prevented at the initiative of a party external to the device, in a way defined by said external party. According to an advantageous embodiment, the device that received the blocking key [[yet]] further requests the user to confirm the operation before the received blocking key is activated. Thus an external device or its user cannot block a certain function or functions of a device without the acceptance of the user of said device.--

On page 4, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 as follows:

--According to an advantageous embodiment of the invention, a given function or functions in a device – which could in the situation at hand cause danger or disturbance or be otherwise undesirable – can be made inoperative at the initiative of an external device. Advantageously the user only needs to accept the block to the function. For example the Nokia Communicator mobile phone (Nokia Corporation, Helsinki, Finland) has a mode where the phone is switched off, but the computer can still be used. For instance in an airplane, it could thus be possible to switch off the phone, but still for instance play the games included in the device. In these cases, however, it is the user who himself deliberately switches off certain functions. Whereas, according to the advantageous embodiment of the invention, the initiative for switching off a function [[an]] and

switching it on again comes from an external party, an external device. In addition, according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention, the external party defines the key details, i.e. which functions are switched off and how the switching off is realized. An additional advantage for the party who sends the blocking and unblocking keys is that the duration of the temporary blocking can be defined by the sender, so that the unblocking key corresponding to the blocking key is transmitted at a desired point of time.--

On page 4, please insert the following heading prior to line 21:

--Brief Description of the Drawings--

On page 4, please insert the following heading prior to line 31:

--Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments--

On page 8, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 23 as follows:

--In current portable devices, there are integrated various segments that increase the device functions and make them more versatile. According to an advantageous embodiment of the invention, a temporary block can be set for said functions, in case they in certain situations are considered to be disturbing or even dangerous. Let us now observe, by way of example, the segments performing the device functions. In addition to the functional segments and applications connected to portable devices, the users may typically download desired applications in their devices. Thereby there is nearly an unlimited number of various functions of different types that can be obtained in the devices, and these functions are performed either by the portable device or by an external device as a response to a request transmitted by the portable device. The function blocking according to the advantageous embodiment of the invention can also be used for blocking said externally downloaded or externally performed functions. The device illustrated in figure 3 includes a radio transmitter 307, the data received by which the user may listen through the loudspeakers. The radio waves received by the radio transmitter 307 may in certain situations be harmful for the environment. In addition, in certain situations even sounds of the

radio ~~sounds~~ may disturb, wherefore the radio transmitter can according to an advantageous embodiment of the invention be blocked to be temporarily inoperative, and further released to function normally. In practice this can be realized so that data is not transmitted from the control unit 301 to the radio transmitter 307, in which case the device is in a blocked mode. Another alternative is by a blocking key to prevent the current supply to the radio transmitter 307, which again means that the radio transmitter 307 is in a blocked mode.--

On page 9, please amend the paragraph beginning at line 11 as follows:

--Typical segments in portable devices for producing sound are components such as a loudspeaker 314, a buzzer 315 or a MIDI (musical instrument digital interface) device 316 that improves upon a monotonous sound environment. The sounds in the device are controlled by a sound controller 308. If the function to be blocked according to the advantageous embodiment of the invention is a sound function, the sound controller 308 can be set in an inoperative mode, in which case sound commands are not transmitted to the sound-producing components. According to another alternative, the sound-producing components, such as the loudspeaker 314, the buzzer 315 or the MIDI device 316 are set to be inoperative, for example by preventing their current supply. Respectively, the vibration functions of the device, typically a vibration alarm 317 of the battery, are controlled by a vibration controller 309. Also this function can be blocked by temporarily preventing the operation of the vibration controller 309 or the vibration alarm 317 by means of a blocking key.--